

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AID-05 IO-10 SAM-01 SAJ-01 /074 W

----- 023691

R 140800Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5169

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY MANILA

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 2639

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, TW, US

SUBJECT: CCK URGES SELF-RELIANCE

REF: A. TAIPEI 2388

B. TAIPEI 2085 (NOTAL)

1. IN HIS FIRST MAJOR PUBLIC STATEMENT FOLLOWING HIS "RETURN TO WORK" AFTER THE MOURNING PERIOD, PREMIER CHIANG CHING-KUO ADDRESSED THE CABINET MEETING MAY 8 EMPHASIZING THEMES OF SELF-RELIANCE AND UNITY. HE SUGGESTED THAT CURRENT POLICIES WILL CONTINUE WITH AT MOST ONLY SLIGHT MODIFICATIONS. RELEASED ON MAY 12 AND CARRIED AS THE LEAD ITEM IN ALL CHINESE LANGUAGE PAPERS ON MAY 13, THE PREMIER'S STATEMENT WAS OBVIOUSLY DESIGNED FOR DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION SINCE ONLY MINOR EXCERPTS HAVE BEEN CARRIED IN ENGLISH BY THE CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY AND THE LOCAL ENGLISH PRESS.

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WM FOLLOWING AN INTRODUCTORY DISCUSSION OF THE NATIONAL MOURNING AND ITS IMPORTANCE IN SO ENGTENING THE ROC, CCK SAID: "IN THE PAST THE GOVERNMENT HAS ADOPTED MANY MEASURES TO SERVE THE PEOPLE, BUT THE WORK HAS BEEN NEITHER

GOOD ENOUGH NOR ADEQUATE. FROM NOW ON WE SHOULD CONCENTRATE OUR WILL AND DO OUR BEST TO RENDER BETTER SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE." ALTHOUGH SUBJECT TO SOME INTERPRETATION, WE BELIEVE THIS IS CCK'S PUBLIC CONFIRMATION THAT THERE WILL BE NO MAJOR CHANGES IN POLICY IN THE NEAR FUTURE. HIS EFFORTS OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS TO IMPROVE GOVERNMENT AND INTRODUCE MORE YOUNG BLOOD AND ESPECIALLY TAIWANESE INTO THE SYSTEM AS DESCRIBED IN REF B WILL OBVIOUSLY CONTINUE.

2. MUCH OF THE STATEMENT WAS DEVOTED TO THE LESSONS TO BE LEARNED FROM INDOCHINA AND THE NEED FOR UNITY AND SELF-RELIANCE: "...AT THE SAME TIME WE ALSO WANT TO ABSORB THE LESSON FROM THE BLOODY DEFEATS OF CAMBODIA AND SOUTH VIETNAM. THE FACTS ARE VERY CLEAR, IF WE WANT TO SAVE OURSELVES, IF WE WANT TO SAVE OTHERS, THERE IS NO SECOND ROAD WE CAN TRAVEL, THE ONLY....WAY IS TO STRENGTHEN UNITY, TO DETERMINE TO KEEP OURSELVES STRONG....THE ONLY THING THE COMMUNISTS FEAR IS STRENGTH....THE LATE PRESIDENT CHIANG FREQUENTLY INSTRUCTED US TO RELY TOTALLY UPON OURSELVES AND THAT THE MOST RELIABLE STRENGTH IS ONE'S OWN. ONE MUST KEEP THE FUTURE IN HIS OWN HANDS."

3. IN A GESTURE TO THE UNITED STATES WHICH ALSO EMPHASIZED THE DICHOTOMOUS ATTITUDE DISCUSSED IN REF A, HE ADDED, "RECENTLY PRESIDENT FORD OF THE UNITED STATES REAFFIRMED THE US SUPPORT FOR THIS COUNTRY. WE DEEPLY ADMIRE PRESIDENT FORD'S WISE DECISION; HOWEVER, AT THE SAME TIME WE MUST ALSO UNDERSTAND THE ANCIENT SAYING: 'PEOPLE HELP THOSE WHO HELP THEMSELVES. THOSE WHO ADHERE TO WHAT IS RIGHT WILL HAVE THE HELP OF OTHERS.'"

4. IN A SURPRISING REFERENCE TO THE 1949 GROC DEBACLE IN CHINA HE REEMPHASIZED THE THEME OF INTERNAL UNITY. "A POLITICALLY UNSTABLE NATION CANNOT CREAT THE MIRACLE OF A MILITARY VICTORY. THE INTERNAL STRIFE OF THE CAMBODIAN AND SOUTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENTS PROVIDED THEIR ENEMIES WITH A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO DISRUPT THOSE GOVERNMENTS. THE DEVELOPMENTS CONFIDENTIAL

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WERE A COPY OF THE HISTORY OF THE LOSS OF THE MAINLAND. IN 1950 PRESIDENT CHIANG INSTRUCTED THE PEOPLE NOT TO FORGET THE LESSON OF THE MAINLAND DEFEAT. WHAT HE MEANT WAS THAT WE MUST CONSOLIDATE THE POLITICAL FOUNDATION AND STRENGTHEN UNITY."

5. COMMENT: IN WHAT IS, PERHAPS HIS MOST CAREFULLY CHOSEN LANGUAGE THUS FAR, THE PREMIER WAS CLEARLY PRESSING HOME THE THEMES OF UNITY AND SELF-RELIANCE IN MESSAGES AIMED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY AT A DOMESTIC AUDIENCE. IN THIS CONNECTION DISCUSSIONS WITH INTELLECTUALS AND YOUNGER PEOPLE OVER THE LAST WEEK WE HAVE HEARD A REPETITION OF THE THEME THAT THE US IS UNRELIABLE AND WE MUST DEPEND ON OURSELVES. WE SUSPECT

THAT CCK WAS TO A DEGREE ADDRESSING THIS FEELING IN HIS
REMARKS--REASSURING THE DOUBTERS THAT TAIWAN CAN GO IT ALONE.
POPPL

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